

[21st August 1925]

Ayes—cont.

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| 25. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | 45. Mr. K. Sitarama Reddi. |
| 26. Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez. | 46. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| 27. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. | 47. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. |
| 28. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. | 48. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu. |
| 29. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu. | 49. Mr. K. Veerian. |
| 30. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. | 50. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar. |
| 31. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 51. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi. |
| 32. „ T. Mallesappa. | 52. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu. |
| 33. „ P. N. Marthandam Pillai. | 53. Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 34. „ B. Munisami Nayudu. | 54. „ Abbas Ali Khan. |
| 35. „ K. Prabhakaran Tampan. | 55. Khan Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim Sahib Bahadur. |
| 36. „ D. Manjappa Hegde. | 56. Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Mian Sahib Bahadur. |
| 37. „ K. Raghuchandra Ballal. | 57. Mr. Qadir Muhi-ad-din Sahib Bahadur. |
| 38. „ B. Ramachandra Reddi. | 58. „ Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 39. „ A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 59. „ Mccsa Sait. |
| 40. „ B. P. Sessa Reddi. | 60. „ T. N. Muhammad Sahib. |
| 41. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. | |
| 42. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. | |
| 43. Mr. P. Sagaram. | |
| 44. „ K. Sarabha Reddi. | |

Noes.

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| 1. Rao Bahadur C. V. S. Narasimha Raju. | 11. Mr. K. Koti Reddi. |
| 2. „ A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu. | 12. „ P. Peddi Raju. |
| 3. „ T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. | 13. „ G. Rameswara Rao. |
| 4. Mr. J. A. Saldanha. | 14. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo. |
| 5. „ P. Siva Rao. | 15. Mr. M. B. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 6. „ K. Uppi Sahib. | 16. „ M. Seetayya. |
| 7. „ P. C. Venkatapathi Raju. | 17. „ R. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 8. „ T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 18. „ V. C. Vellingiri Gounder. |
| 9. „ P. Anjaneyulu. | 19. „ C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. |
| 10. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 20. „ B. Venkataratnam. |

The motion was carried, 60 hon. Members voting for and 20 against.

VI

RESOLUTION REGARDING NOTIFICATION AND RULES UNDER SECTIONS 3 AND 7 OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, 1923.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ Mr. President, before moving the resolution which stands in my name, I shall make a few observations on the paramount necessity there is for taking the proposed action. As the House is aware, the Cambodia cotton grown in and around Tiruppur, i.e., in the old district of Coimbatore inclusive of the taluk of Karur which now forms part of the Trichinopoly district, has acquired such a widespread reputation for its superior quality as to induce unscrupulous persons to resort to various tricks in order to palm off their inferior short staple cotton as superior long staple cotton. One method is to rail the pressed inferior stuff into the Tiruppur area from an area outside it and to re-rail it from Tiruppur to the port of embarkation as Tiruppur Cambodia. Another method is to mix together the long and short staple varieties of lint and press the same into bundles and rail them from Tiruppur so that the consignees may labour under the impression that they are getting the genuine Tiruppur Cambodia. A third method is to make the mixture of the kapas (unginned cotton) in the ginnery itself. In all these methods the seller has the advantage for the time being in that the buyer at a distance is unable to detect the fraud at once and prevent the completion of the sale. It is only when the pressed bales are unpacked and passed through the spinning process the fraud is detected. The spinner finds that his machine

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is not able to spin the yarn of a certain count as it would have done if the stuff was of the long staple variety for which he had paid the price. Naturally he is angry that he has been cheated and refuses to buy any more Tiruppur Cambodia. He also goes the length of communicating the fraud perpetrated on him to his brother spinners. The result is that in the spinning world Tiruppur Cambodia becomes a by-word for unreliable stuff.

"When the mixture is made in the ginnery itself, there is the further evil that the seeds get mixed up and all the labour and trouble taken by the officers of the Agricultural Department in evolving a pure strain are irretrievably lost together with the amounts paid as salaries and travelling allowance to those officers.

"The question of restoring the reputation of the superior varieties engaged the attention of many persons and committees, and the Legislative Council of Bombay, which is one of the largest cotton producing provinces in India, went the length of applying to the Government of India for permission to legislate prohibition of import into protected areas. The Government of India first gave the permission, but soon found out that the subject was more central than provincial. They therefore passed the present Cotton Transport Act, 1923, but left it to local legislatures to extend the operation of the Act to their provinces. The Bombay Legislative Council passed the prohibition notification in August 1923. Similar prohibitory laws and regulations exist in the Native States of Hyderabad, Baroda and Rajapipla.

"In the beginning of last year I visited some of the presses and ginneries at Tiruppur along with some superior officers of the Development Department and we saw for ourselves how the mixing was done in various stages. As the result of that visit, a Press Communiqué was issued in August last year which stated the arguments in favour of the application of the Cotton Transport Act to those areas proposed to be protected and invited criticisms on the draft notification under section 3 and the draft rules under section 7. No objections have been received in the case of the Tinnevely area. In the cases of the northerns and the westerns, there was definite approval of the proposal. The affected people of that area have even proposed the separation of the northerns and westerns into separate areas."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"Was there any mixing done in Tinnevely? The hon. the Minister must have known it during his visit to that area."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"I do not know."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—"Then, where is the necessity for this measure?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"It is only in connexion with the Tiruppur area that protests have been received. The objections raised were anticipated in the Press Communiqué. I need not therefore repeat the arguments pro and con. Suffice it to say, they were very carefully considered and Government arrived at the conclusion that the Act should be extended to our Presidency not only in the real interests of the cotton industry, but also in those of the cotton growers.

"In this matter we are not taking a leap in the dark. We have the experience of Bombay to guide us. In that Presidency the Act has been successful beyond all expectations. It has enabled growers of cotton to realize the intrinsic value of their crop which in previous years had

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suffered depreciation from the malpractices of dishonest middlemen. The inconveniences to local interests have also proved to be less serious than were anticipated. The cotton trade adapted itself to the new conditions with extraordinary promptitude and the Act is working smoothly. I will quote a few representative opinions received from Bombay :

'The operation of this Act has already done great good by excluding the importation of inferior cotton into certain areas whose cotton was losing its identity owing to wholesale mixing.'

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May we know the authors of those statements?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"The statements are those made by people concerned in the trade. The improvement in the quality of Surat cotton is well known. In respect of Kumpta cotton, the principal cotton of the southern division of the Bombay Presidency, the following opinions have been received from the Chairman of the Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association :

'I have just been reviewing our cotton purchases for the year which is now ending and as we are often asked as to what effect the Cotton Transport Act has had, it will perhaps be of interest to you to know that in 1924 we purchased for our mills something like four times the quantity of Kumpta cotton we have been purchasing in any previous year, and this is entirely due to the fact that, owing to the application of the Act, Kumpta cottons were better in class, in staple and in quality generally. The absence of mixed cotton, which had previously been abundant in Kumpta, was remarkably noticeable.'

'I agree that there is a marked improvement in the quality of Kumpta cotton and most of the trade is due to the working of the Cotton Transport Act.'

'The Transport Act is a sound piece of legislation and has done enormous good to Kumpta cotton.'

'On the whole, the Act has worked well and is universally approved by the trade. The quality of the cotton from protected areas has been considerably improved in every case.'

"In passing I may remark that the opposition to the application of the Act to the Tiruppur area is not unanimous. Mr. Shanmukham Chettiyar who is a Member of the Legislative Assembly and who hails from almost the centre of the Tiruppur area refers thus in his speech in the Assembly on the 2nd February of this year to the prevailing habit of mixing and to the consequent loss to the poor cultivators :

'In South India on account of the activities of the Agricultural department a quality of cotton which is now known as Tiruppur Cambodia is extensively grown. The poor agriculturist there takes a good deal of trouble and spends a lot of money in growing this cotton. The cotton goes into the market. It goes through the gins and presses, and in the early periods of the cotton season, it fetches a very good price. But gradually the mischief is being done in the gins and presses and ultimately the purchaser who is offered the Tiruppur Cambodia cannot accept the word of a merchant at its face value and is not prepared to pay the legitimate price which is due to Tiruppur Cambodia. The ultimate effect of this is that, as the season advances, the agriculturist does not get the proper price for his produce.'

"Other people also have given expression to this opinion. Under the Act, cotton of any kind can be freely imported to the extent of 10 lb Lint from certain districts in which there are not proper facilities for pressing can be imported into Tiruppur without restriction. In respect of other kinds and places, permission to transport can be obtained by applications for licences. As an administrative measure it is proposed to instruct the licence-issuing officer to issue freely and expeditiously licences, for transport of cotton seed and cotton waste in the early stages.

"The Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act has come into force as from August 8. The rules framed by the Government of India and by this Government appeared in the last Tuesday's Gazette. The Cotton

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Ginning and Pressing Factories Act and the Cotton Transport Act are complementary to one another and one without the other will not be completely effective. The advantages of bringing both Acts into force more or less simultaneously are thus evident.

"In Bombay, the protected areas are no less than six in number and much smaller in extent than the areas we propose to protect. Our proposals err, if anything, on the side of latitude. The notification of a large number of protected areas smaller in extent would perhaps have been more effective in attaining the object in view and experience may necessitate additional limitations. But we propose to move slowly and cautiously at the start and no additional areas will be notified without the approval of the House.

I therefore move that 'this Council approves the notification^a and the rules which it is proposed to issue under sections 3 and 7 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923), and recommends to Government that the said notification and rules should be issued in the form in which they have been submitted to the Council.'

"I have no hesitation in commending the present modest proposals for favourable consideration of the House. I would appeal to Members to take a broad and far-sighted view of the situation and not to allow considerations of local and temporary interests to outweigh the solid practical advantages of a measure from which the cotton grower, the cotton-ginner and the cotton mill-owner all stand to gain and only the dishonest middleman who adulterates cotton to lose."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—"I second the motion."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"I do not move the postponement of the consideration of this motion. Perhaps my hon Friend, Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar, wants to move it."

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"Thinking that the hon. Member would not move his amendment, I have already given notice of an amendment. I move, Sir, that the further consideration of this matter be postponed till such date in September or October 1925 as may be fixed by the hon. the President. It has been the earnest desire of many of us coming from the cotton-growing area that this subject may lie over till the next meeting to enable us to go to our constituencies and to ascertain from the ryots exactly whether the application of the Act in the present form and with the present schedule will be hard or beneficial to them. It is true that a draft notification was issued in August 1924 but nobody thought that this matter would come up for consideration this month. As we ourselves received copies of the rules under the Act only along with our agenda a few days ago before the meeting, we had no opportunity to consult the ryots. In my opinion, Sir, the application of the Act in the present form will not be beneficial to the ryots. Ryots are mostly illiterate and it is very difficult for them to understand the Act. The Act divides the cotton-growing area into a protected one and an unprotected one. With regard mostly to the unprotected area, we have to make further examination. Under this Act, cotton is prohibited to be taken from an unprotected area to a protected area without a licence from the Government. It is not easy for an illiterate ryot to take licence and that at a quick pace. Most of the ryots grow cotton for their

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livelihood and delay means starvation for them. Not only that ; many cotton-growing areas have no ginning factories or cotton presses which they could use with advantage. The ryots have to wait till some manufacturer turns up from unprotected areas to buy their cotton. What is the result ? They will have to be at the mercy of the exporters mostly foreign, for taking their cotton. We want a month or two more to enable us to go to the ryots and exactly know their views. There will be no serious harm in waiting for a month or two more instead of proceeding with the rules in their present form. Under the circumstances, I beg to move that the consideration of this motion be postponed till October next."

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR:—"In seconding the motion I want to make certain observations. The hon. the Minister for Development dwelt at great length on the Cambodia area of Tiruppur. But I am sorry he did not refer to the Tinnevely area. He himself admitted that so far as that area is concerned, he did not know whether there was mixture. But as far as my knowledge goes, I do not think that there is any such danger as is anticipated. It seems to me that to jump from one fact that there is mixture in Tiruppur area to the conclusion that there will be mixture in Tinnevely also is to take a long leap in the dark.

"Again, Sir, with regard to these rules, so far as I know, people are not aware of them as is always the case, especially Tinnevely and Ramnad which are the benighted districts in this Presidency. I mean by this that they do not know or care to know about what is taking place around them. It is only when matters come to a crisis that they begin to understand what difficulties they have to experience and then they begin to grumble; and when they find that they are late, the grumbles evaporate slowly. So, Sir, this is a matter which ought to be made known to the people in Tinnevely and Ramnad districts especially and for that it is quite necessary that some time should be given to them to understand this matter so that this question might be agitated among the ryots.

"Moreover, Sir, I have some great suspicion with regard to the rules to be applied to the Tinnevely area. I think that the extension of the rules to the Tinnevely area is not intended to benefit the ryots chiefly. It may have something at the back of it. Perhaps it is intended to benefit the exporters chiefly, who are Europeans, and certain Japanese firms. If these rules are to be extended to the Tinnevely area, ryots will be entirely at the mercy of these exporters who will dictate their terms to the ryots. Under these circumstances, I second the motion brought forward by my hon. Friend Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar that this motion should be adjourned for some time to come, at least till October."

Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ:—"I congratulate the hon. the Minister for Development for having brought forward this motion, because I come from a cotton area and I have got enough experience of the cotton trade itself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think we had better clear first of all the question of the amendment for the postponement of the motion."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"This subject has been before the public since August 1924 and I cannot understand that within one year people could not have made up their minds on this important

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subject. As a matter of fact, this subject was discussed at Tuticorin when the hon. Member, Mr. Cruz Fernandez, was present and it was the unanimous opinion of the merchants and the people who had come to the meeting that these rules ought to be brought into force as soon as possible and that is the very reason why, in response to the Press Communiqué that was issued, no representations were received from Tuticorin. The Act was introduced in Bombay in August 1923. It has been in force in other parts of India. This Act and the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, as I have already said, are complementary to each other. It is high time that the notification is made applicable."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" If I rise at this stage, it is not either to support the proposition that has been made or to oppose it but to request the hon. Mover of the proposition to withdraw it. This is, no doubt, a very difficult question and I was one of those who, even before this meeting began, had sent notice with a view to have this matter postponed till January or February next. Since we came here, however, from the last Monday we have been talking over this matter with the hon. the Minister and the Secretary of the Development Department; and however much every compromise may mean the loss of some of the points urged by either side and though I am not satisfied with the compromise, I must say that I have accepted the amendment I gave notice last, under the idea that half a loaf is better than no loaf."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, some agreements are being talked of but the House does not seem to be aware of them. May I know what those agreements are?"
4-15 p.m.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" That is what I am coming to say. I expected the hon. the Minister will himself speak on the agreements and acquaint the House with them. But he has not done so."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. Member can let the House understand what those agreements are which we are told the Minister has accepted when the time comes for it. Now, we shall deal with the motion for adjournment that has been made by an hon. Member."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" The hon. the Minister has made certain remarks in the course of his speech and I would have very much wished that he had not done so, for the speech contained several statements to none of which many of us here would subscribe. There are three Acts, the Agricultural Diseases Act, the Ginning Factories Act and the Cotton Transport Act, which came into existence as a result of the conspiracy between the exporters who are generally Europeans and what are called cotton committees both in the whole country and in the province. This has always been a struggle between the Indian merchants so far as they deal with the ginning of cotton and the European merchants. This has been a struggle between the foreign exporters and the Indian cultivators. Thanks to the hon. Minister who was kind enough to agree to our suggestions. So far as the date fixed for the removal of the Indian plant, we arrived at a compromise satisfactory from the point of view of the growers. The second is about the rules under discussion. The third is Ginning and Pressing Factories Act which adds, no doubt, further difficulties in the trade of ginning and pressing as it only makes the position of ginners and pressers

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more difficult. We have not protested against it. But we most modestly submitted ourselves to this thing. I do not agree with the hon. the Minister when he said that these Acts, the Transport Act and the Ginning Factories Act are supplementary to each other as, in my opinion, and the one has nothing to do with the other. Our submission is that the Ginning and Pressing Act is enough for the purposes that it is required to serve. I thought that the hon. Minister would not have made a speech because the understanding is that the matter should be very carefully gone into next year and in that circumstance I would have expected the hon. Minister not to come to a conclusion as to the desirability of applying this Act to this Presidency, the arrangement being only temporary strictly speaking.

"I would urge that so far as the postponement of the whole matter is concerned, the mover of the adjournment motion to withdraw provided, of course, the hon. the Minister would give his careful consideration.

"Sir in this connexion I would remind the hon. the Minister that the people that suffer most would be the growers. He quoted some authorities from Bombay and said that they were favourable to the Act. I may submit that the result of this Act would be completely in favour of the exporter and the mill-owner, both of whom are very much interested in the passing of the rules. Although personally, probably, I would be benefited by this Act being put into force as one who has got interest in mills and as one who is himself the owner of lands growing cotton, as one whose duties are to represent the real needs of the people of the Coimbatore district as against the needs of the exporters and the mill-owners, I must protest against the proposal. As to objections from Tinnevely, not only there would be no objection but also there would be good deal of support to this from those quarters. I would give one case to the Minister to prove my statements. There is a taluk in North Arcot district called Gudiyatam and we know that good cotton is grown there. Those people send cotton to Tiruppur where there is a market and where sometimes the price of cotton has been growing by leaps and bounds. It would be no exaggeration to say that even in this year of low prices and small quantity of cotton produced, Tiruppur has been able to get some crores of rupees worth of cotton."

* Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"On a point of order, Sir. I do not see how all these matters are relevant to the motion that we are discussing now regarding the adjournment moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar."

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I am sorry my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnan Nayar did not hear me properly. I said that I was mentioning all those matters just to ask the mover to withdraw his motion for adjournment and was giving him some of the reasons that I am sure would induce him to do so.

"So far as the postponement is concerned, if the hon. the Minister is pleased to tell us now that he would go into the whole matter and give it his best attention we shall be satisfied, and I would request the Minister to do so now. This is purely a matter between the exporters and the mill-owners on the one hand and the growers on the other. The grower in any place like Salem for instance, or even Coimbatore, will be in a worse position. The hon. the Minister in his speech indicated that this was in the interests

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of the grower. I would refer him to Gudiyattam where cotton is produced. If there is a market like Tiruppur where you can effect sale to the extent of four crores it shows clearly that there is a great demand, and Tiruppur Indian merchants succeed as against the European merchants. If there is any place where cotton merchants from Europe have been driven to the wall, it is Tiruppur, and therefore the European merchants look upon Tiruppur with an eye of jealousy and try to lessen the importance of Tiruppur. There is a big market there where large number of merchants come not only from India but also from Europe and Japan. Therefore the price of cotton goes up. If this rule is passed, what would happen? Gudiyattam is a place where there is no ginning factory, and the cotton-grower cannot have any market. Who will then purchase it? Certainly it is the exporter. He can get a licence and export it. The exporter can go and impose his terms anywhere in the absence of merchants from Coimbatore. Therefore we must take it that prices in any case will fall down. Therefore also on behalf of the owners of ginning factories at Tiruppur who have invested large amounts of money I appeal to the hon. the Minister to go into the matter carefully. Under these rules no man will be allowed to purchase and sell where he pleases. As to the mixture, I may say that no mill uses cotton without mixture. There must be mixing somewhere. If the grower does not mix, the mill must mix and so on.

"Now, Sir, these are some of the observations that arise out of the ginning factories. No doubt the hon. the Minister was pleased to come to Tiruppur himself and some of us also went there and we were under the impression that we would be consulted, but that was not to be. May I ask him to tell us how many objections he has received from various places? I know he has received many. But he carefully says that he has received no objection whatever from Tinnevely. There they are export merchants, and many ginning factories belong to European merchants. They do not gin cotton for outsiders unless it is sold to them. Therefore the man there must necessarily sell the stuff to exporters and they do not object to this naturally. In the Cotton Committee's report they say that the area should be wide and all the area growing one variety should be included. We want that all Cambodia area should be included in the Tiruppur cotton Cambodia area. They include some parts of North Arcot and Trichinopoly."

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—"Why not some parts of South Arcot as well?"

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I do not know if there is cotton grown in South Arcot. But since my hon. Friend Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar insists, subject to correction, I agree some parts of South Arcot also may be included. The hon. the Minister seems to be under the impression that the cotton in Coimbatore district is all good quality. May I say, Sir, if he has not made up his mind, that Dharapuram and Udumalpet grow very inferior cotton? I can say that Tiruchengodu from Salem, Gudiyattam from North Arcot and Manaparai cotton have fetched higher prices both in Bombay and Tiruppur. They comprise of all sorts and varieties, good, bad and indifferent. And this artificial definition of Tiruppur Cambodia cotton is not reasonable. To avoid friction we have been having some interviews for the last four days.

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"We are for the present satisfied because we could not get more and because the hon. the Minister has promised to look into the whole question. He has even promised to see that the Director of Agriculture issues the licences without difficulty. Half-yearly licences may be issued so that the difficulty of applying for licences every now and then may be obviated. As the exporters get licences every year, so also these people may be given half-yearly licences. The whole question should be discussed and a conclusion arrived at before the next crop season is over. It is this matter that I wanted to place before the House and I request Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar to withdraw his motion."

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"After saying a few words I will withdraw my amendment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"A Member that wants to withdraw his motion has to do so without making a speech."

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"But I must say a few words before withdrawing."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I will refer the hon. Member to the Standing Order. It is open to the hon. Member to withdraw his amendment or not to do so. I cannot allow him to make a second speech."

* Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Then I do not withdraw."

Then the motion was put to the House and lost.

* Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 6. Mr. P. Peddi Raju. |
| 2. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar. | 7. Sriman Sasibhushan Rath Mahasayo. |
| 3. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo. | 8. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar. |
| 4. Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar. | 9. " M. Sitayya. |
| 5. " K. Koti Reddi. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 21. Mr. J. A. Davis. |
| 2. " Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks. | 22. " N. Devendrudu. |
| 3. " Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 4. " Mr. T. E. Moir. | 24. Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 25. Rao Sahib P. V. Gopalan. |
| 6. " Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. | 26. Mr. L. C. Guruswami. |
| 7. " the Raja of Panagul. | 27. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu. |
| 8. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar. | 28. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 9. " E. W. Legh. | 29. " T. Mallesappa. |
| 10. " G. T. Boag. | 30. " P. N. Marthandam Pillai. |
| 11. " G. T. H. Bracken. | 31. " B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 12. " Muhammad Abdulla Ghatala Sahib. | 32. " B. Obalesappa. |
| 13. " S. Arpudaswami Udayar. | 33. " K. Prabbakaran Tampan. |
| 14. Rao Sahib T. C. Tangavelu Pillai. | 34. " B. Ramachandra Reddi. |
| 15. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja. | 35. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. |
| 16. Mr. D. Appavu Chettiyar. | 36. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. |
| 17. " P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar. | 37. Dr. P. Subbarayan. |
| 18. " A. V. Bhanoji Rao. | 38. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. |
| 19. " A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 39. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar. |
| 20. Diwan Bahadur P. C. Ethirajala Nayudu. | 40. Mr. P. T. Rajan. |
| | 41. Rao Bahadur P. Raman. |
| | 42. Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi. |

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Noes--cont.

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| 43. Mr. K. Sarvarayudu. | 50. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimbachari. |
| 44. „ K. Sitarama Reddi. | 51. Khar Bahadur Haji Abdulla Haji Qasim |
| 45. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. | Sahib Bahadur |
| 46. Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai. | 52. Mr. T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur. |
| 47. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti | 53. „ V. C. Vellingiri Gounder. |
| Nayudu. | 54. „ C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar. |
| 48. Mr. R. Veerian. | 55. „ M. Moosa Sait Sahb. |
| 49. Diwan Bahadur W. Vijayaraghava | 56. „ T. N. Muhammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| Mudaliyar. | |

The motion was lost, 9 hon Members voting *for* and 56 *against*.

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“I shall formally move my amendment and say how it can be easily accepted. I move the amendment of which I have sent notice.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I hope the hon. Member will keep his speech within the narrowest possible limits. He has taken a great deal of time already in speaking on the adjournment motion.”

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“That is, you are assuming that I am going to make a long speech.” (Laughter.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“From experience.” (Laughter.)

* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—“I shall give you the assurance that that was a speech a portion of which was relevant to the adjournment motion. My amendment has been circulated to all the Members. I will just explain the original motion and the amendment. The original rules framed by the Government prohibited the import of cotton into the Coimbatore district and Karur taluk from any place outside that area. My first amendment was on behalf of the owners of ginning factories to include the whole of the Salem district, Kulittalai taluk, Dindigul and Palni. As a result of the compromise, the Government have agreed to include not only Palni and Dindigul, but one or two taluks more in Madura. So that in Madura we have got by this compromise much more than what we expected, but in Salem district we have not got the whole. The compromise is that the three cotton-producing taluks of Namakkal, Tiruchengode and Rasipuram should be included in the Coimbatore area. We fought hard to have the Salem taluk, so as to have the advantage of having cotton grown there. But Government were not pleased to agree to that. We have got in Salem district all three cotton-growing taluks and yet Government did not agree to their inclusion. I wanted the Kulittalai taluk—at least a portion of it to be included. Unfortunately we did not succeed. But the hon. the Minister has promised to look into the whole question. Therefore we have practically got all we wanted, even a little more than what we wanted in Madura, though we have not got what we wanted in Trichinopoly and Salem. They say that if Trichinopoly is included Pudukotah cotton will be brought in. For the matter of that, there is the Manaparai firka, which is growing cotton. In fact, Sir, the whole of the Madura district has been divided into two divisions, the Tinnevely area and Coimbatore area. We have got much more in Madura than what we asked for. But we have not got anything we wanted in Trichinopoly. We beg the hon the Minister and the Secretary to include at least the Manaparai firka where cotton is grown and which is very close to Dindigul. But they have half-agreed.

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People do not realize our difficulties. If we did not get these areas, all the ginning factories there would go to waste and all the portion now included in Tiruppur would suffer. Therefore, people should give us credit for having gone into the whole question. We have fought every inch of the ground, every minute of the time and wrung what we could from the hon. the Minister. We have got at least 15/16ths of what we wanted. As for the other 1/16th, we shall persuade the hon. the Minister and get it too. Unfortunately, we have not succeeded in convincing him that this Act is dangerous so far as this Presidency is concerned. With these words I move my amendment.

(The Deputy President took the chair)

“As I said, Sir, it has been circulated among the Members. Now, there is a little mistake in the draft notification which has been rectified
4-45 p.m. in the amendment which I am now moving, viz.—

(1) In clause (3) of the draft notification *omit* the words ‘Salem’ and ‘into Tiruppur’.

(2) In the same clause *insert* after the words ‘cotton lint’ the words ‘into Tiruppur—Cambodia protected area as defined in Schedule I’ and after the word ‘Chingleput’ the words ‘and from the Atar, Dharmapuri, Hosur, Krishnagiri, Omalur, Salem and Uttangarai taluks of Salem district.’

(3) In section II of Schedule I *omit* the word ‘and’.

(4) In the same section *add* at the end the words ‘the Namakkal, Tiruchengodu and Rasipur taluks of Salem district and that portion of the Madura district lying to the north and west of the Vaigai river’.

(5) In line 2 of section 2 of Schedule II for ‘Erode’ substitute ‘McDonald’s Choultry’.

(6) In line 3 of the above section *insert* before the word ‘and’ the words ‘from Madura Bridge to Ayyalur both inclusive’.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—“I second the motion.”

* Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—“I oppose it. Mr. Deputy President, Sir, this amendment rather aggravates our difficulties than removing them. Dindigul and Palni taluks are proposed to be taken away from our area and given into the hands of the Coimbatore people. With regard to the southern districts, Virudunagar is the greatest cotton market. Almost all the cotton from Dindigul and Palni taluks and also some of the cotton from Trichinopoly are taken to Virudupatti and there they are ginned, pressed and sold away. About 50,000 bales of cotton are being ginned and pressed every year at Virudupatti. At the same time there is no pressing factory between Virudunagar and Trichinopoly except the one at Dindigul where only about 1,000 or 2,000 bales of cotton are being pressed annually. Sir, most of the cotton produced in Dindigul and Palni are being imported into Virudupatti where they find a market. So, Sir, in depriving us of Dindigul and Palni taluks, the market at Virudupatti will be made less important than it is now. At the same time, cotton produced in the surrounding areas of Virudupatti will not be very much and can be easily bought by the European exporters and also by some Japanese exporters. Thus, strictly speaking, Virudupatti will lose its importance as a cotton market for the southern districts altogether and the ryots will be placed at the disposal of the exporters

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who are mostly Europeans and Japanese. Sir, this Virudupatti which is going to be a railway junction will lose its trade. I would rather request the hon. Member from Coimbatore to give us the taluks of Dindigul and Palni and also a portion of Trichinopoly so that we may be able to import cotton from those areas. Under these circumstances I strongly object to the amendment. At the same time I request my hon. Colleagues from Tinnevely, Ramnad and Madura to support me in this matter."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI:—"The amendments proposed to the House have been drawn up in consultation with me and therefore I may tell the House at once that I accept them."

Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"Mr. Deputy President, I first propose to answer the last speaker in regard to the question of Virudupatti—as he called it, Virudunagar. The amendments now moved do not affect the position as regards Virudupatti in any way. Cotton from Dindigul would not go to Virudupatti whether these amendments are accepted or not. So, the situation is exactly the same.

"Now, in regard to the amendments moved by Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, the hon. the Minister for Development has already informed the House that the Government have accepted them. The Government accepted them as a compromise and also, as the hon. Member from Coimbatore was careful to add, as a temporary makeshift. The hon. Member from Coimbatore wanted an assurance from the Government that these rules would be reconsidered in about a year's time. I can assure him and the House that the Government have every intention to reconsider these rules in the light of experience, because the Government consider that the new Tiruppur Cambodia area as now amended is far too large and must be split up into two areas in the future. One hon. Member raised the question of Tinnevely and suggested that there was no mixture of cotton in Tinnevely. I can assure him that I have first-hand knowledge that such mixture does go on and I know of a case where a firm from Tinnevely imported inferior cotton from Bombay mixed it with Tinnevely and sold it as best Tinnevely. This is a good instance in point. A Japanese firm took this cotton in an unsuspecting way until they found out their mistake. They were afterwards not willing to buy Tinnevely at the same price.

"A good deal has been said about the benefit of the Act to the mills. Well, cotton has to find its way somewhere and the mills are the principal purchasers. If the mills do not give a good price for the cotton, then the cultivator who raises it cannot realize the intrinsic value of his produce. I hope the House will not be prejudiced in any way by the idea that this Act is for the benefit of the mill-owners. I assure the House that that consideration has never entered into the mind of the hon. the Minister for Development. This Act is intended to benefit the cotton-growers and it is hoped that it will enable them to realize proper prices.

"There is only one other point to which I have to refer. A good deal has been said about the question of exporters. I do not know whether the House realizes how very little of this Cambodia cotton is really exported. About four-fifths of it is consumed in the Indian mills, a certain quantity of it goes to Japan and the rest only goes to Europe or England."

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* Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Is it not a fact that the English merchants are coming more into the market for Cambodia ? ”

Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—“ I have no knowledge of it. However, the fact remains that this is not intended for the benefit of exporters ; because, as I said nearly all the Cambodia cotton grown is consumed in India

“ Another point raised by the hon. Member from Coimbatore was that a certain amount of inferior cotton is grown in Coimbatore. That is perfectly true. The object of this Act is to keep out the coming in of much inferior cotton from other districts.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ Sir, I move that the question be put.”

The amendment was put and carried.

* The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ Now, I will put the original motion as amended to the vote of the House.”

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ I want to oppose the motion.”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“ It is very clear that more than one hon. Member is anxious to speak on the subject and it is better
5 p.m. that we adjourn further consideration of this subject to the next official day.”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ There are so many subjects to be taken up next day.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—“ I think we may go on with the motion.”

(Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyan rose to speak)

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ If the hon. Member is anxious to speak, he may do so.”

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ The result of accepting Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar's amendment. . . .”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ Is the hon. Member going to oppose the motion ? ”

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Yes, Sir, I am going to oppose the motion.”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ Then the hon. Member may do it straightway.”

* Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Sir, I rise under considerable discouragement. Much has been said by the hon. the Mover of the resolution about the need for the measure. When you talk about the need of a particular measure you have to consider whose need it is that the measure is expected to meet ; is it the need of the 40 and odd million people of our province a large percentage of whom are cultivators or is it the need of the foreign buyer ? The hon. the Minister for Development drew a gruesome picture in lurid colours of the state of the Tiruppur market and said that the merchants refused to buy because of the fraud practised by a few people. My hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, whose acquaintance with cotton business is certainly larger, wider and deeper than that of the hon. the Minister for Development, assures us that Tiruppur market is growing in popularity by leaps and bounds and every day Tiruppur is becoming more

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and more a flourishing centre of cotton trade. The value of the house properties is going up in Tiruppur. The hon. Minister tells us that Tiruppur cotton has become a by-word. Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar who is one of the most prosperous mill-owners tells us that Tiruppur cotton is very much sought after. It is better that the hon. the Minister tells us plainly whether he is here to represent and safeguard the interest of the foreign buyer or of the 40 and odd millions of our people. My hon. Friend Mr. Cruz Fernandez was so eager to congratulate the hon. the Minister for Development on this excellent measure. It has to be remembered that Mr. Cruz Fernandez is one of the active agents for one of the foreign buyers of cotton in Tuticorin. I can understand the necessity for this measure if there had been a great cry from the Indian mill-owners. But whatever the hon. the Minister for Development and the hon. Member the Secretary to the Development Department may say, my own inquiries go to show that the Indian mill industry does not want protection of the Tiruppur market. We have been treated to many extracts from opinions of unknown writers as to the urgent necessity for stopping this practice of mixing varieties of cotton. But whatever you may say the Indian mills do want a mixture of cotton and therefore this practice of mixture is not after all an unmixed evil. The analogy of Bombay has been put forward. There the cotton areas are more compact, but unfortunately in this province the cotton area is so very wide that in spite of the fact that the hon. Member Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar and the hon. Minister had been assiduously engaged at it for the last so many days they have not been able to enumerate and include all the areas which ought to be included in the Tiruppur Cambodia area. They have been very zealous of Coimbatore district only."

*MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR:—"Any area added to Tiruppur will help us also; the hon. Member may include North Arcot, Salem, etc."

*MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"It is only now my hon. friend recognizes that in South India there are cotton-growing areas other than Coimbatore district. North Arcot which I have the honour to represent in this House has its own special claims, not because I represent it, but because it easily produces the finest cotton. I may here quote the *Commercial Times* which is published by a business body in Tiruppur which says that Gudiyattam cotton takes the first place in all the qualities except in only one in which it takes a second place. But there is not even a single ginning factory there. In Gudiyattam large numbers of paddy-growers have taken to growing cotton and the area under cotton is increasing; it is not just that they should all be penalized. This is not the first time that protection has been sought to be applied to a single staple product. Some 25 years back a similar restriction was sought to be imposed when a body of merchants in Dundee raised a great hue and cry about the mixture of various articles such as sand and water with the jute that was exported from places in the mouth of the Hugli. Even then such stringent restrictions were not sought to be imposed. If this protection is sought to be imposed in the interests of the people of our land, then why did they not impose any protection in the case of the adulteration of food-stuffs? Large quantities of ghee are exported from one place to another which has no resemblance to genuine ghee at all. Food-stuffs are allowed to be imported into Madras from the plague-affected areas and

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protection against this was not afforded. Simply because certain foreign merchants want a certain quality of cotton the whole world is astir. I am only sorry that the Coimbatore members have gone behind our backs, carried on conversations with the hon. Minister and got 15 annas out of the rupee in the bargain. Now that one anna which remains for us is very valuable to me, for I represent only a small and poor district and not a big district like Coimbatore. Let us see what the proposed restrictions will do for Tiruppur. Tiruppur market rules Southern India, because all the cotton merchants and cotton buyers flock there. When there is so much competition, prices naturally go up. Some portion of it goes to the cultivator. But if you restrict the import of cotton into Tiruppur, what will happen? The market will dwindle down. The hon. the Minister said that we would develop other places, other small places such as Gudiyattam and Kallakurichi as cotton centres. This cannot be done in a day. It has taken nearly a century for Tiruppur to attain its present importance. Until the vague, nebulous and shadowy promise of the hon. Minister comes to fruition, until the hon. Minister divides the Cambodia area into three, four or five parts, until that day comes, all these districts will have to suffer for a number of years.

"Sir, there is also one other objection and I base it on the licensing system. Our ryots and the cultivators are uncultured and uneducated people and they will suffer much at the hands of the licensing authorities. They are not able to take care of themselves. I suppose the Director of Agriculture will see that the licences are issued as quickly as possible. But we must know that there is a long ladder between the Director of Agriculture and the ryot who produces his cotton and the poor ryot will be harassed very much. This will also probably open a vista of opportunities to unscrupulous underlings of Government to fleece the ryots who have given up the growing of food-grains in favour of the need of the foreigner, viz., cotton. Smuggling will go on as it has been going on in Pondicherry in spite of the existence of a large and expensive establishment. The ryot will be subjected to a new tyranny. The position taken by the hon. Member the Secretary to the Development Department is untenable and I request the House to vote against this proposal."

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR :—"Since the original amendment of which notice was given by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar, differs from the amendment now under discussion which seems to have been the result of the pourparlers between the hon. Member and the Government, I move that . . ."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member is not in order."

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR :—"I am going to propose that further consideration of the Bill be postponed till the next official day."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"May I beg to point out that the amendment was accepted by the Government and we were going to put the motion to vote when the hon. Member Mr. Adinarayana Chettiyar wanted to oppose the motion as amended and the discussion went on."

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR :—"I want an adjournment of the consideration of the question."

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* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"My hon. Friend Mr. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar has not correctly understood me. There is no difference between myself and Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar on the subject of the amendments. We have discussed the matter and we have come to a satisfactory solution of it and it is that that was before the Council. The only thing that remains for us to do is to put the main issue to the vote."

Rao Bahadur A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU :—"May I second the motion for adjournment?"

* Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, I second the motion for adjournment which has been made by Mr. Vijayaragava Mudaliyar. We are entirely in the dark as to what this amendment is; we have had no time to study it and I was not aware of it until Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar showed it to me. In any case I strongly support the motion of Mr. Vijayaragava Mudaliyar that the further consideration of this item be postponed to the next official day."

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"It has been duly proposed and seconded that further consideration of this subject be postponed to the next official day. Does the hon. the Minister want to oppose this motion for adjournment?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"Considering that so many hon. Members desire that there should be an adjournment I do not wish to oppose the motion."

The motion that further consideration of the business be postponed till the next official day was put to the House and carried.

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—"The question will be taken up on the next official day, i.e., Wednesday."

The House adjourned to meet again on Monday the 24th instant.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council